

January 9, 2008

Dear members of the Surface Transportation Board,

As 11-year residents of Barrington, with two children in District's 220 school system, we are vehemently opposed to the Canadian National acquisition of the freight line that runs through Barrington.

With the train tracks crossing both Lake-Cook Road and Route 59 right in the middle of downtown Barrington, two major routes are shut down each time a train passes through Barrington. This causes huge back-ups, making it difficult to get from one end of town to the other. The freight expansion would further add to this congestion, negatively impacting our thriving downtown businesses and plans to further expand the downtown commercial business sector.

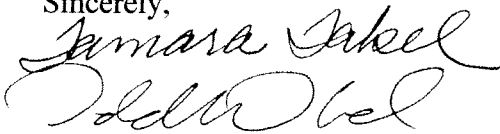
Families trying to enjoy our beautiful new Citizens' Park (which was purchased/renovated from a referendum supported by the tax payers of Barrington) would have their outings ruined with the noise and pollution of the extra trains. And more importantly, inadequate pedestrian gates would put our children in danger.

In addition, the increased rail traffic will delay our children's school buses, adding time to the routes, adding time to our children's already full days and potentially leading to tardiness.

We strongly recommend that the Surface Transportation Board not support Canadian National's expansion efforts. It will severely impact our quality of life, the safety of our children and the viability of town.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Tamara Tabel and Todd Tabel. The signature of Tamara Tabel is written in a cursive script, and the signature of Todd Tabel is written in a more stylized, blocky cursive script.

Tamara Tabel
Todd Tabel

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